

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 517

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association upon the celebration of its sixtieth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those exemplary educational organizations that have made significant contributions to the State of Tennessee through championing student success and a dedicated commitment to academic excellence; and

WHEREAS, one such distinguished organization is the Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association (TICUA), a pillar of educational excellence since 1956; and

WHEREAS, founded by four private, independent colleges as a statewide collaborative for higher education, the Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association has grown to a membership of thirty-four private colleges and universities across the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, TICUA member colleges and universities educate more than 80,000 students annually, including 7,000 students at over eighty off-site and satellite campus locations, and has enrolled nearly 1,000 high school students in courses for which the students receive both high school and college credit; and

WHEREAS, for the 2014-2015 academic year, TICUA institutions awarded 19,804 degrees, including 2,300 degrees in STEM disciplines, while graduating 3,700 business and management leaders, 2,600 educators, and 4,300 health care professionals; and

WHEREAS, TICUA member institutions have an \$11.4 billion economic impact annually on Tennessee's economy, employing more than 37,000 faculty and staff and creating an additional 411,800 jobs in local communities; and

WHEREAS, increasing college access and higher education in Tennessee, TICUA has championed the cause of student choice, enabling students to attend the Tennessee college or university that best fits their educational and social needs; and

WHEREAS, the West Tennessee membership of TICUA includes: Baptist College of Health Sciences, Christian Brothers University, Memphis College of Art, LeMoyne-Owen College, Southern College of Optometry, Rhodes College, Union University, Lane College, Freed-Hardeman University, and Bethel University; and

WHEREAS, the Middle Tennessee membership of TICUA is: Martin Methodist College, Belmont University, Welch College, Fisk University, Meharry Medical College, Vanderbilt University, Trevecca Nazarene University, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Lipscomb University, Aquinas College, Watkins College of Art, Design & Film, Cumberland University, and Sewanee: The University of the South; and

WHEREAS, the TICUA member institutions of East Tennessee are: Southern Adventist University, Bryan College, Lee University, Tennessee Wesleyan College, Maryville College, Johnson University, Lincoln Memorial University, Carson-Newman University, Tusculum College, Milligan College, and King University; and

WHEREAS, for the past sixty years, TICUA member schools have been a bastion of excellence in academics and in life, molding young minds into the scholars and leaders of tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly find it appropriate to specially recognize and celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of the Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we hereby honor the Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association upon the celebration of its sixtieth anniversary, commend its commitment to higher education, and applaud its sixty years of distinguished service and contributions to the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.